

Strasburger

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

March 16, 2012

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BY E-FILING

Ms. Cynthia A. Brown
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
March 16, 2012
Part of
Public Record

RE: FD 35559, Saratoga And North Creek Railway, LLC-Operation Exemption-Tahawus Line

Dear Ms. Brown:

On behalf of the Saratoga And North Creek Railway, LLC, I am e-filing a letter of support from United States Senator Kristen E. Gillibrand representing New York State. It is my understanding that her office has submitted a paper copy of this letter by US Mail.

With receipt of Senator Gillibrand's letter and a joint letter of support from the New York State Departments of Transportation and Environmental Conservation which those agencies will be submitting today, Saratoga's proposal to provide common carrier rail service over the Tahawus Line enjoys broad support from well over thirty agencies, officials, shippers, economic development agencies, and ordinary citizens.

The simple fact of the matter is that *no one* but Protect the Adirondacks opposes this project. There is nothing controversial about it except this protestant and its motives.

I am enclosing with this letter a certificate of service.

Sincerely yours,



John D. Heffner

Enclosure

cc: All parties

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COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
AGRICULTURE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3205

March 6, 2012

Ms. Cynthia Brown
Chief, Section on Administration
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423


Dear Ms. Brown,

I write in support of the Surface Transportation Board giving full and timely consideration to the application of the Saratoga and North Creek Railroad for a permit to extend their common carrier operations and re-initiate freight service on the North Creek to Tahawus rail line in New York State.

This effort is in keeping with the New York State sponsored and approved North Country Regional Economic Development Plan, which includes the preservation and rehabilitation of rail infrastructure within the Adirondack Park as a key priority. Utilizing the North Creek to Tahawus rail line also has the potential of supporting new jobs in the region and being an environmentally friendly alternative to increased industrial truck traffic.

I ask that you please give this application your full consideration. If you have any questions, or desire further information, please do not hesitate to contact my staff member Andrew Usyk at (202) 224-4451.

Sincerely,



Kirsten E. Gillibrand
United States Senator


**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

FD 35559

**SARATOGA AND NORTH CREEK RAILWAY, LLC
-OPERATION EXEMPTION-
TAHAWUS LINE**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I mailed a copy of the attached support letter of the Honorable Kristen Gillibrand to all parties of record in the above-captioned proceeding by first class United States Mail this 16th day of March 2012.


John D. Heffner